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HEMEROCALLIS

C. BETSCHER
DOVER, OHIO



1936

BETSCHER'S HEMEROCALLIS

The Perennial Supreme

A Bit of History

Many years ago in our garden were *Hemerocallis*, *Flava*, *Fulva*, *Kwanzo*. As a boy they appealed to me—the older I became the more so. When I began the florist business, *Aureole*, *Dumorteri*, etc. were new and added to my list. We bred these in a small way for a number of generations, selecting the few best, destroying the rest. As they became better, breeding work was greatly increased. The while our seedlings showed better plants and flowers, decidedly more fine ones per thousand, newer colors and tints, forms, times of blooming, etc. As our seedlings evolved increasingly betterments, work with them was increased and broadened.

1929, a greater work at breeding than previously was done, resulting in a very fine crop of seeds. The severe dryness ruined many of these seedlings, the remainder came into full bloom in 1934, again a very dry year.

However, when these came into bloom, many were very much larger and in much better colorings. Many different forms—dwarfs, taller, earlier to much later. A season from May 15th until frozen.

Then many were full of new bud stems, indicating that where seasons are much longer as Virginia, Tennessee and south, many should bloom over a very much longer season. Imagine such a long season of beauty, a change day on day all summer and fall, 150-175 days, in the south much longer. Many show blooms several times, some are showing up as "everbloomers."

For several seasons it was very hot and dry when these were blooming, so a critical appraisal could not be made. 1934, a very dry year the soil was very hard so it was impossible to cultivate them. The leaves became yellowed; however, when they began to bloom it was agreeably surprising to see the blooms quite full size. These should do well everywhere. Many of these out-class the finest lilies.

The greatest reward was the many whites that gave fine large blooms rivaling *Regal* lilies. A bigeneric cross of *Hemerocallis* x *Funkia*, a typical *Funkia* with a very small rich golden hem bloom. Foliage pure white and green variegations.

1934 we crossed the entire season, based on the advancing betterments inherent in sound breeding, the very fine ones we had to breed, and the great volume of work done. Hence, far superior ones should present themselves 1937-38-39. From pure whites to far better scarlets-reds fulvous.

We may reasonably look forward to a time when we shall see blue, lavender, pink rose and purples.

Hemerocallis may be forced, same care as with *Narcissus*. Thus, latest ones may be forced to come open in winter or in early May and June. When an earlier clump is done blooming it may be lifted carefully, one beginning to open put into its place, thus continued all season. One may have flowers in one spot in the garden all season. They are hardy and a success from Manitoba into Mexico, perhaps Patagonia.

Planting may be done any time soil is unfrozen. May be divided any time desired. Growing from seeds, plant as soon as ripe, late fall or early spring. One inch deep, about 2 x 2 inches apart. Cover with burlap. Leave two years, then replant 4 inches deep, 4 or 6 inches apart in rows. Cover with burlap or straw, first two winters in seed beds. Some will bloom third or fourth year.

Some sorts open in early morning, close at night and are called day bloomers. Others open in late afternoon, close early the following morning and are called night bloomers. In very cool weather, we have seen both types open for forty-eight hours.

Planting liliams with Hemerocallis 10 or 12 inches away from them gives a fine show when hems are not in bloom. The shade of Hemerocallis foliage provides an ideal place for most sorts of liliams.

Gladioli may be planted about them July 1st to 15th to follow liliams.

We had planned to send out a new set this spring. The prospective demand was such that we deemed it best to postpone their release until spring 1937, perhaps this fall. The demand for hems. this spring is very heavy.

THE OLDER SORTS AND TYPES

The older sorts and types, mostly very early and early sorts. Smaller than the above with smaller blooms, but they fit into many places better than the newer, larger ones.

- Apricot, 2 ft., early June, light apricot orange, dainty.
 - Aureole, 3 ft. June, orange yellow good size, free.
 - Dr. Regel, 1½ ft., May and early June, pure orange yellow, fragrant, free.
 - Dumorteri, 1½ ft., June, rich cadmium yellow, dwarf.
 - Flava, 3 ft., May and June, "The Lemon Lily" clear lemon yellow.
 - Fulva, 3-4 ft., reddish yellow, "The Tawny Lily" old but colorful.
 - Kwanzo, 4 ft., July and August, orange coppery red double flowers.
 - Citrina, 3 ft., July and August, pale sulphur yellow, small dainty -----\$1.00 Each
 - Thunbergi, 3 ft., July and August, pale yellow, fine.
 - Florham, 3 ft., June, similar to The Gem, but smaller. Three to six eyes or divisions.
- 25c Each, or \$2.50 per Dozen. \$17.50 per 100.

BETSCHER'S NEW HEMEROCALLIS

- Amaryllis, 3½ ft., July and August, beautiful golden orange -----\$1.00
 - Bay State, 3 ft., July and August, large deep yellow -----\$1.00
 - D. D. Wyman, 2½ ft., July and August, golden yellow, tawny splashed petals -----\$1.50
 - Golden Dream, 3 ft., July and August, deep golden orange yellow extra -----\$1.50
 - Goldeni, 2½ ft., July, rich deep orange -----\$1.00
 - Harvest Moon, 3 ft., July and August, rich clear orange sherbet -----\$1.50
 - J. A. Crawford, 3 ft., July and August, fine apricot yellow extra -----\$1.00
 - J. R. Mann, 3½ ft., July and August, frosted apricot yellow -----\$1.00
 - Lemona, 3½ to 4 ft., July and August, clear lemon yellow extra -----\$1.00
 - Modesty, 2½ ft., June and July, delicate pale yellow -----\$1.50
 - Mrs. A. H. Austin, 3 ft., July and August, deep golden orange extra -----\$1.50
 - Mrs. W. H. Wyman, 3 ft., August, pale glistening yellow, latest to bloom, very fine \$1.50
 - The Gem, 3 ft., June and July, deep yellow apricot, as fine as the best lilies -----\$1.00
- 2 — 4 Good divisions. 12 Plants at 10 times the Each Rate.
- Hyperion, 3 ft., very fine lemon -----\$3.00
 - Special — 1 each of the above except Hyperion — 23 sorts for -----\$16.50

APRICOT— Dr. Regel, Dumorteri, Flava, Thunbergi, and fine unnamed seedlings; very choice, in lots of 500, 1000 or larger lots for drift, moss, park or roadside planting at special prices.

SPECIAL OFFERS, Our Choice, All Fine—

6 Old sorts, named-----	\$1.50	12 for \$ 2.50
6 Old sorts and 3 new, named -----	\$4.50	12 for \$ 8.00
6 New sorts, named-----	\$6.00	12 for \$10.00

SEEDS

We offer very fine hybridized seed from very fine sorts, using pollen from our very finest only. 100 seeds, \$2.50; \$5.00; \$10.00. All should give very fine new ones.

We expect much finer hybrids than the very finest we have today, from these same hybrid seeds. A visit to our farm when flowers are in bloom, will surprise all amateurs. A great show.

OUR TERMS are cash with order. Small orders by mail, postage free.

IRIS

To those interested in the very best newest and older finer Iris, kindly ask for our August list. Burning Bronze, Cheerio, Director Pinelle, Eclador, Golden Light, Jean Cayeux, Best Sass and other specialists sorts in various types. Fall orders for hemerocallis can be sent with iris. Please write for list if interested.

Our 1937 list will carry a new set of hemerocallis in addition to our present list. These are all very fine. Bloom mid May into frost. Some dwarf, some very tall; the last word in day lillies.

Our 1937 list will also carry a very fine list of exceptionally fine newer and older Dahlias and Gladioli.

To those who desire seeing day lillies at their best, we suggest the best dates to inspect them will be July 20th to 31st and early August. Dahlias and gladioli in late August into October.

LILIUMS— A choice collection of very fine sorts. Owing to the very severe conditions last year, we will not offer any lilies until next fall. So those wanting high class lilies or exceptionally fine hybridized seed, we expect to have a very fine lot for fall and 1937.

NARCISSUS— For some years we have been growing Narcissus; largely such sorts as Alba Plena, Barri, Emperor, Mrs. Langtry, Victoria, etc. Our fall list will offer many others.

We have a fine lot of evergreens for nearby sales. We plant from March into January—anytime the ground is unfrozen. Do not plant evergreens when ground is frozen.

We have very fine collections of the following items, and dates when best for inspection: Dahlias, September; Gladiolus, August and September; Hemerocallis-early sorts July 1st, late sorts July 20th to 31st; Liliums, June 20th to July 1st; Peonias June 10th.

All my life much experimentation has been done with many botanical subjects as to breeding, care, growing, planting and related problems, soil culture, etc. Many present day customs and usages are passe. Azaleas, evergreens, etc. may be planted anytime desired. Our experimentation along these lines have been very broad.

Lectures and clinics may be arranged